THE WESTERN LUMINARY.

"THE LAMB IS THE LIGHT THEREOF."—Rev. xxi. 23.

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ANNIVERSARIES IN NEW-YORK.

From the N. Y. Observer, May 14.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

CONVENTION OF DELEGATES.

On Tuesday the 10th instant, at 9 o'clock, A. M. delegates from Tract Societies in different parts of the United States assembled, agreeably to previous notice, at the Consistory room, corner of Nassau and Ann-streets. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Proudfit of Salem. Rev. James Milnor, D. D. was called to the chair, and Rev. Howard Malcom of Hudson, appointed Secretary.

The constitution adopted at a meeting held in New-York on the 11th of March, was then read, article by article, and fully discussed.—Some amendments were introduced, and the whole finally approved, and recommended for adoption at the public meeting to be held on the following day. A committee of seven, from different denominations, was appointed to nominate a list of officers for the Society the ensuing year; and the Convention adjourned to meet at the same place on Wednesday, at half past 9 o'clock, A. M. to move in procession to the meeting for giving the Society the public sanction of the Christian community.

PUBLIC EXERCISES ON WEDNESDAY.

The Convention met on Wednesday according to adjournment, and proceeded to the City Hotel at 10 o'clock, A. M.

S. V. S. WILDER, Esq OF BOLTON, (MASS.)

elected President of the Society at the meeting in March, took the chair, supported by the Rev. James Milnor, D. D. Chairman of the Convention of Delegates, Col. Richard Varick, and Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer of Albany.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Archibald Maclay, of the Baptist church in Mulberry-street.

The Rev. Archibald Maclay was appointed Secretary of the meeting.—The Rev. Dr. Milnor then read a statement of the proceedings relative to the formation of the Society, including a brief history of the negociations between the New-York Religious Tract Society, and the American Tract Society at Boston, and of the measures adopted at the meeting in March, and stated that the sum of $12,500, contributed at the meeting refered to, for the purchase of a lot, and the erection of a house for the Society, had been increased to upwards of 20,000 dollars. He then read the proceedings of the Convention of delegates, and the Constitution, approved by that body, and recommended for adoption.

The following resolutions were then offered, accompanied by appropriate addresses, and unanimously adopted.

On motion of Rev. Thomas De Witt, of the Reformed Dutch church, Fishkill, seconded by Col. Richard Varick:

Resolved, That the proceedings in the establishment of the American Tract Society, as now read by the Chairman of the Convention of Delegates, with the Constitution recommended for our adoption, have our cordial approbation; and that the same be published under the direction of the Executive Committee.

On motion of the Rev. Eustace Carey from Calcutta, seconded by Rev. Cornelius C. Cuyler of the Reformed Dutch Church, Pougkeepsie:

Resolved, That the establishment of this National Institution, and the cordial and catholic feeling evinced by Christians of different denominations in its formation, are events most auspicious to the cause of our Divine Redeemer, and demanding our unfeigned gratitude to God, and our zealous and persevering efforts to promote the prosperity of the Society.

On motion of Rev. Alexander Proudfit, D. D. of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, Salem, N. Y. seconded by Rev. William McMurray, D. D. of the Reformed Dutch Church, Market-street.

Resolved, That the Christian affection and enlarged benevolence which have led our Eastern Brethren to aid in the formation of this Society, should incite us to afford a prompt and liberal support.

On motion of Rev. Howard Malcom, of the Baptist church, Hudson, N. Y. seconded by Rev. Thomas McAuley, D. D. of the Presbyterian church, Rutgers-street:

Resolved, That, convinced of the great truth that "union is strength," we do earnestly invite all Evangelical Tract Societies and Associations, to co-operate with us in the great objects of this institution.

On motion of Rev. John Summerfield, of the Methodist Episcopal church, New-York, seconded by Rev. Cave Jones, of the Episcopal church, Brooklyn:

Resolved, That as all permanent good cometh down from the Father of light, we do give ourselves continually to prayer, for his blessings on this institution, and do urge it upon all the lovers of our Zion to aid us herein, by their devout supplications

In offering the above resolutions, addresses were made by Rev. Mr. DeWitt, Rev. Mr. Carey, Rev. Dr. Proudit, Rev. Mr. Malcom, and Rev. Mr. Summerfield.

The election of the officers having been declared, the President, S. V. S. Wilder, Esq. rose and said:

"In consenting, my Christian friends, to stand, nominally, at the head of this national Tract Sooiety, where your indulgent feelings have placed me, I console myself with the reflection that the discharge of all those duties which were to affect the prosperity and usefuluess of this institution, will devolve upon those whose experience and talents, under the blessing of God, promise the most successful results. On them, looking to heaven for guidance and support, we will all place our confidence; while, at the same time, I beg them to consider my services as at their command, to all the extent of the means which my feeble efforts can afford. Accept my unfeigned thanks for this mark of your esteem and confidence, in placing me in so distinguished a situation for the promotion of such a cause: Oh! that I were more worthy of it, not for my own sake, but for the sake of Him who suffered and died on the Cross of Calvary, to redeem us from the power and just punishment of sin.

"Indulge me, before I conclude, with one simple request. It is, that the Publishing Committee would ever bear in mind the high responsibility of their office; and always feel that, as the eternal destinies of souls may hang upon their deliberations and doings, no Tract should ever issue from the depository of this Society, which does not contain (should it find its way where a Bible was never seen, nor the Gospel ever heard,) enough of Divine truth to guide the ignorant and the inquiring sinner into the path of eternal life."

LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

After the exercises at the Hotel, the Society proceeded to the corner of Nassau and Spruce-streets, where the new edifice is to be erected, to witness the ceremony of laying the corner stone. The exercises were commenced with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Fonda, of the Reformed Dutch Church, from Montgomery; after which the President delivered an address:

After the address, the Rev. Warren Fay, of the Evangelical Congregational church, in Charlestown, Mass. offered the concluding prayer. The corner stone of the proposed edifice was then laid by the President, who, in performing the ceremony, addressed the numerous spectators, assembled on the occasion, as follows:

"Whilst we thus place the corner stone which will serve to uphold this edifice, angels, we may believe, contemplate with joy and admiration our labours of love. Generations, yet unborn, will elevate songs of praise to the great I AM, for the blessings which the enterprise of this house may be instrumental in procuring for perishing millions. And if, through the bounty of Divine grace, in a crucified Redeemer, we ourselves shall be admitted to the happy mansions of endless rest, the period will arrive, when we may unite in their song over the multitudes that are redeemed through these humble exertions."

Under the corner stone are deposited an account of the proceedings relative to the formation of the Society, a list of the donations contributed for the erection of the edifice, and a copy of each of the Tracts which have been published by various Evangelical Religious Tract Societies in the United States, with the religious periodical Journals of the day.

The corner stone being laid, the Directors met at the Consistory room in Ann-street, enacted the Society's By-Laws, and elected the following gentlemen members of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Publishing Committee.

Rev. James Milnor, D. D. of the Episcopal church.
Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D. of the Pres. church.
Rev John Knox, D. D. of the Ref. Dutch church.
Rev. Justin Edwards, Andover, Mass. of the Congregational church.
Rev. Charles G. Sommers, of the Baptist church.
Rev. John Summerfield, of the Meth. Ep. church.

Distributing Committee.—Thomas Stokes, Esq. Dr. James C. Bliss, Marcus Wilbur, Sidney E. Morse, Charles Starr.

Finance Committee.—Arthur Tappan, Dr. John Stears, Moses Allen, Elijah Pierson, Richard T. Haines, Dr. Stephen Beekman.

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Few events in the history of our Benevolent Institutions. have excited so deep an interest in the friends of Zion, as the formation of this Society. It was questioned by many, whether it were possible for the different denominations of Evangelical Christians to unite in a *Tract* Society; and many fears of this kind were expressed at the Convention of Delegates. The

more the subject was discussed, however, the more perfectly accordant appeared to be the views entertained by different gentlemen, of what the character of the publications of the Society ought to be. It was found, that all wished them to inculcate our ruin by sin; the necessity of our being born again through the renewing of the Holy Ghost; and our obligations to be holy, and to live a life of new and active obedience. The great doctrine of "Christ and him crucified," was that which all appeared to love, and wish to have urged in every Tract. In the progress of the discussion, it was found, that the only line of separation which any were disposed to regard, was that between those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, and those who will not have him to reign over them; and the longer the discussion continued, the more they saw in every brother, by whatever name he was called, the spirit of their blessed Master, and an earnest desire to hon our him in the salvation of perishing men. A bond of christian affection immediately encircled them; and at the public meeting it grew stronger and stronger. The president of the Society, who has been extensively engaged in the distribution of Tracts, in different countries, and in connection with christians of every name, and all others who addressed the meeting, seemed to forget all personal considerations, all sectarian interests, in their devout and earnest desire, that our glorious Redeemer should be honoured, and souls gathered into his kingdom. We be lieve there was not a Christian present, who did not feel that he was standing on holy ground. All seemed to say, it is good to be here. All viewed the work in which they were engaged, as a work of Christian faith and a labour of Christian love; all seemed wishing to wait on God for his blessing; and many felt that while they were yet speaking, the Almighty Redeemer heard, and was there in the midst of them. It was with no surprise, that the interesting brother who spoke last, was heard to say, that of all the anniversaries he had attended, on this and the other continent, he had never been conscious of such a spirit of christian love filling the room. An institution thus commenced, thus consecrated to God, we believe must prosper. The request prefered in the last resolution, we hope will be remembered by the followers of Christ; and we trust that in answer to their prayers, thousands and ten of thousands will give thanks to God forever, for the formation of this Society.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

On Tuesday, at 3 o'clock P. M the children of the schools belonging to the Sunday School Union, amounting to between *four and five thousand*, assembled in the Park, arranged in companies, each company under its respective banner, which bore the number of the school and an appropriate motto. They then walked in procession, accompained by the Superintendents and teachers, and preceded by the President of the Society, and the other officers and members, to Castle-Garden. The society took their seats on an elevated platform in and around the orchestra. The girls were seated upon the lower benches of the gallery, and the boys stood in groups in the area below. The concourse of ladies and gentlemen, assembled to witness the spectacle, seemed nearly to fill this vast amphitheatre, capable of holding conveniently 15 or 20,000 people. After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Cox, a hymn was read by Mr. Sage, which was sung by ten thousand united voices. The Rev. Mr. Cone then made an appropriate address, and another hymn was sung, when the lowering aspect of the weather induced the President to dismiss the assembly.

In the evening the Society assembled in St. George's Church in Beekman-street. After prayer by the Rev. Eustace Carey, the Annual Report was read by Horace Holden, Esq. A vote for the acceptance and printing of the Report, and a vote of thanks to the Superintendents and Teachers, were passed, and the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Arbuckle of Bloominggrove, Orange, Co., the Rev. C. Colton, of Batavia, Genesse Co., and the Rev. Mr. Cox of this city. *Ib.*

From the N. Y. Reli Chron. May 14.

UNITED FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The celebration of the eighth anniversary took place at the City Hotel on Wednesday evening.—The large room where the exercises were performed was filled to overflowing, and many persons were unable to gain admittance. After a prayer had been offered, the Secretary, Zachariah Lewis, Esq. read extracts from the annual report. From this document it appears that the affairs of the institution are flourishing, and that much encouragement exists for continued and more extended labours. The prominent facts set forth have been already made known to our readers on different occasions.

When the Report was concluded, the Rev. Mr. Cuyler, of Poughkeepsie, made an address. Rev. Mr. Wylie, of Washington, Pa. Dr. Proudfit, of Salem, and the Rev. Mr. Ellis, from the Sandwich Islands, followed. The speech of the latter was founded on his personal observation of the effect of missions to the heathen, as exhibited among the South Sea Islanders, with whom he has so long resided. He related a number of affecting anecdotes in illustratiou of his remarks. On one occasion, when a little boy had gratified an attentive audiance by repeating several chapters from the Bible, which he had acquired from missionary instruction, and Mr. Ellis beheld his widowed mother sitting by, her countenance exhibiting the satisfaction she felt on the occasion, he was struck by observing near her another female who appeared in the deepest gloom and despondency. Approaching to learn the cause of her sadness, she with tears exclaimed, "oh! that you had sooner visited these benighted regions, and taught us the precepts of your religion.—I too had such a son, who might now have been my pride and consolation, but in the darkness of heathenism these hands brought him to an untimely end." As an evidence that the Society should persevere in these benevolent labours even though no beneficial result should be immediately apparent, for that the seed sown would spring up and bear fruit in the appointed time, he instanced the remarkable case of the Islands of the Pacific, where for 16 years no apparent good was effected, and then suddenly idolatry was overthrown, and heathenism demolished.

A collection in aid of the Society having then been made, a chief of the Seneca tribe of Indians, (Capt. Pollard) a convert to Christianity through the instrumentality of this Society's missions, made an address of considerable interest, which was interpreted by a young man who had been attached to the mission. It related principally to the condition of his countrymen before the introduction of Christianity, and to his own state of feeling before and after his conversion

The concluding address was by the Rev. Mr. Crane, well known to the friends of Indian civilization and missionary exertion. It was of a very feeling and impressive character, and was received with the most marked attention throughout.

THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

This great National institution celebrated its ninth anniversary on Thursday. The officers of the society, and those gentleman who were to take part in the exercises of the day met at the Society's House in Nassau street at 10 o'clock, and moved in procession to the City Hotel. The chair was taken by his Excellency Governor Clinton, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society; who was supported by Col. Varick, the Hon. Smith Thompson, of the Supreme Court of the U. S. John Bolton, Esq. and Col. Robt. Troup. Chief Justice Savage, and Judges Sutherland and Woodworth, of the Supreme Court, were also present.

The exercises were commenced by the reading of the 103d Psalm by the Rev. Dr. Porter, of Cattskill, after which Gov. Clinton briefly addressed the meeting, and paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of Gen. Clarkson, whose place, as presiding officer on such occasions, he now filled. Letters of apology for absence were then read from the President of the United States, from the venerable John Jay, President of the Society, and others and an address by Mr. Jay was read by the Rev. Dr. Milnor.

The annual report of the Treasurer, presented by W. W. Woolsey, Esq. represented the finances of the institution in a very flourishing condition; the receipts of the present year ($46,501) exceeding those of the last by the sum of $4,589. The report of the Board of Managers was then read by the Rev. Dr. M'Auley, one of the Society's Secretaries. It is impossible, here, to offer in much detail the contents of this important document. It appears that the labours of the managers have been performed with the most perfect harmony, and with unabated diligence and zeal. The affairs of the institution are in every respect highly prosperous, and encouraging, but its receipts are still inadequate to the increasing wants of the country.

For the sake of brevity, we adopt the condensed account of the Society's operations given in the Daily Advertiser.

There have been printed at the Depository during the year, 48,550 Bibles and Testaments, including 2000 Spanish Bibles;—making a total in the nine years of the Society's existence of 451,902 Bibles and Testaments, and parts of the latter, printed, or otherwise obtained by the Society. Stereotype plates for a Pocket Bible are casting, and are expected to be completed by the ensuing autumn. There have been issued from the Depository in the course of the year 63,851 Bibles and Testaments, and the Gospels in the Mohawk language; making a total since the establishment of the Society of 372,913 Bibles and Testaments, and parts of the latter, exclusive of the number issued by the Kentucky Bible Society. The Managers have been recently engaged in contributing to the supply of penitentiaries and prisons with the Scriptures; and the troops stationed at remote posts of the United States; the army and navy both being now furnished with Bibles from the same source. The Managers have granted $500 to assist in the translation and publication of the Scriptures in some of the languages of the native tribes of Peru; one of which tribes contains a million of people. Gratuitous donations of the Scriptures for distribution, principally in the new Territories of the Union, have been made during the year to the value of $10,447. The number of New Auxiliaries recognized during the year, has been 45, making in the whole 452. Many of the Auxiliaries have been actively and zealously engaged during the year, in promoting the objects of the Parent Institution, and in supplying

the destitute in their several districts with the Holy Scripteres. *Ib.*

PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATION SOCIETY.

This institution celebrated its seventh anniversary, in the Brick Church in Beckman-street, on Thursday evening: His Excellency, Governor Clinton, presided.

The introductory prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. M'Auley, of this city, and the annual report presented by Rev. Mr. Stafford. This document was of great length, and parts of it only were read on this occasion. Commencing with a tribute to the memory of the late Rev. Mr. Whelpley, one of the warmest friends of the institution, it proceeded to detail the operations of the society for the year past. It appears that the executive committee of New-York have in this time afforded assistance to 14 young men, three or four of whom have closed their connexion with this society in this period. —The executive committee of East Tennessee have extended their aid to 31, who have been pursuing their studies at Greenville College, or in the preparatory department of the seminary, occasionally interrupted by efforts in their own behalf. The liberality of their instructor, in aiding the youth, was noticed, and the wants of that section of the country briefly stated.

From the reports which have been made to the society, the names of 93 beneficiaries are known, and it is supposed the number of those not returned will augment the list to 105. The expenditure for this period does not exceed $7000. The receipts of the General Committee were $762 50, and with the amount remaining on hand, would make the aggregate of $1,223 98. Twenty-two dollars will remain in the treasury when present engagements are fulfilled. The plan of the society was then detailed, testimony, adduced in its favour, &c. and the report closed by urging to greater efforts. *Ib.*

UNITED DOMESTIC MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

This society celebrated its second anniversary on Friday evening the 13th inst. at the City Hotel Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer, President of the Society, occupied the chair, supported by his Excellency Governor Clinton and Chancellor Kent. After prayer the annual report was read by the Rev. Mr Bruen; from which it appears that the efforts of the Society have been abundantly blessed during the last year, or in the words of that interesting document, that "the success which has followed their labours, the power with which their missionaries have been clothed, the churches which have been established by their help, all inscribe on their institution, Jehovah-Shammah, *the Lord is there.*" Nothwithstanding the want of permanent funds, the Society have employ during the year, one hundred and twenty-one missionaries; most of them in this State, although some are dispersed throughout the Union. These have administered to the wants of one hundred and thirty-one churches.— Revivals of religion have taken place at many of their stations. "Times bearing a happy resemblance to the day of Pentecost, have been brought around by Him, who has all time in his hand, and bestows the residue of his Spirit. The Spirit has been poured out: the sons and daughters in the desolate places have prophesied, and the living influence of godliness has been seen." More than six hundred individuals in their congregations have become hopefully pious, and connected themselves with the visible church.

From the Treasurer's report it appears that the receipts of the Society during the past year have been $11,262 40.

The Rev. Mr. Bush, of Indiana, pre-

sented the meeting, from his own observation, with a picture of the civil, religious and political state of things in that part of the Union, and proceeded, at considerable length, to show the many favourable circumstances to missionary labours in that region.

The Rev. Mr. Breckenridge, of Lexington, Ky. also spoke for some time, and with great energy and eloquence, in order to show that while such strenuous and praiseworthy efforts are making for the support of foreign missions, domestic missions should not be neglected. A kind of charm has been cast about foreign missions; but he is no less a hero who enters the domestic field, traversing trackless forests and encountering swelling floods, to bear the tidings of the Gospel to the remote settler or the wilder Indian.—He wished the foreign and domestic missionary societies to go hand and hand--he believed the connexion between the two was intimate and inseparable.

From the report of the Treasurer of this Society it appears, that the receipts during the past year, have been $112,62 40 cts.; of which sum, $3,482 85 cts. were for annual dues and to constitute Directors and members for life, $2,195 81 cts. were donations, $3,485 89 cts. from auxiliary societies and missionaries, and $2,097 85 cts., were collections in churches, at prayer meetings, and sundry other places. *Observer.*

AMERICAN JEWS' SOCIETY.

The anniversary of the American Society for Meliorating the Condition of the Jews, was celebrated at Washington Hall on Friday evening of last week. The President, Peter Wilson, L. L. D. having been prevented from attending the meeting, the Rev. James Milnor, D. D. one of the Vice Presidents, took the chair at half past 7 o'clock, and the exercises were commenced with prayer by the Rev. A. M'Clay of this city. An abstract of the Annual Report of the Board of Directors was then read by the Rev. James G. Ogilvie, Domestic and Recording Secretary. From this document it appears that since the last anniversary 109 Auxiliary Societies have been added, making the whole number 322; the present funds of the Society amount to upwards of 14,000 dollars. A farm of about 400 acres has been rented in the town of Harrison, West Chester county, where a Jewish settlement will be immediately formed.—An agent is appointed to visit Europe to promote the views of the Society.

After the Report was read, the usual resolutions were passed, and the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Proudfit, the Rev. C. C. Cuyler, the Rev. Reuben Smith of Ballston, and the Rev. Howard Malcolm of Hudson, and by Mr. Jacobi and Dr. De Wolf, two converts from Judaism.

N. Y. Observer,

RECEIPT FOR CONTENTMENT.

A man asked a pious minister, who had struggled through many difficulties without repining, or discovering impatience, how it was he could thus be always easy and contented, under whatever trial? The good man replied, "I can teach you the faculty. It consists in nothing more than making a right use of my eyes. In whatever state I am, I first of all look up to heaven, and remember that my principal business is to get there. I then look down upon the earth, and call to mind how small a space I shall occupy in it, when I come to be interred. I then *look abroad* into the world, and observe what multitudes there are, who are more unhappy than myself. Thus I learn where true happiness is placed; where all earthly cares must end; and how very little reason I have to *complain or repine.*" Reader, improve this receipt; and you too will obtain a cure.

THE LUMINARY.

LEXINGTON:
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1825.

OF MISSIONS.

If any thing were wanting, in the present age, to shew the value of missions; that thing would probably be found in the opposition of sinners, and of Christians who have not yet imbibed a very great amount of the Spirit of the Gospel.

In the religious journals of the day; we have frequent mention of the opposition which *Romanists* are making, to the progress of the missionaries among the Heathen; of the vindictive hate of that bloody people, which is preparing to evince itself, in "hard knocks," in acts of cruelty and outrage,—of their alarm lest the prosperity of missions, should cut up their hopes of extended power, in those regions where Christ is beginning to be known. The same spirit which these Romanist have ever manifested in former days, in relation to the approaching reign of Christ—they are evidently manifesting now. They are not, as yet, perhaps, indeed, pouring out torrents of missionary blood, upon the Heathen lands which these self-denying disciples are endeavouring to benefit;—but they are shewing forth, most clearly, that they only need the *power*, to engage in the same enterprize of *glory*, and infuriated intolerance, for which they have displayed so great a *taste* in the times that are past. In short, the emissaries of the Pope are willing to *exterminate* the missionaries of Jesus,—and are already manifesting toward them the same feelings which their predecessors, the Pharisees and the Saducees, manifested towards Jesus Himself, in the days of his sojournment on earth.

But is this spirit of opposition of which we speak confined to *Romanists?* —Is it not discoverable, upon every hand?—Let candor answer our questions.

Catholics are opposed to the missionary cause; because they would have their priesthood to have rule on earth—and not the Blessed Saviour. —And *Sectarians* (and we use the word in its popular sense) are opposed to the cause of missions; because they dread the existence of influence, in any, save their own bodies,—and because, in truth, it is personal *sway and aggrandizement* which they desire—rather than the glory of the Redeemer, and the well-being of mankind.—And *Unitarians*, and other *speculative infidels*, are opposed to missions and to the gospel spread; because they cannot see, not having felt, the worth of our holy religion. And, in one word, we find opposition to the cause, or indifference respecting it; simply, because men do not know, and do not love, the truth of God: they are themselves in voluntary darkness—they have not permitted themselves to learn the value of light—and it would be rather strange if they were very anxious to extend to other men, and to distant nations, that of which themselves remain still uninformed in head and in heart.

It is most evident, therefore, that our observation with which we set out *is true*—and that men's opposition and hate, do prove the value of that which is the opposite of the "carnal mind."

What, however, are we to think of the proposition that we should *first* have our *own people all* pious—and *then*, but not till then, endeavor to do something for the people of other, and Heathen, lands?....Why, this proposition still savors of infidelity It is as much to say —Let A, a street lounger and black guard, be persuaded to that industry which will lead to comfort—*before* B. C. D. &c. &c, who are sunk into black,

and in some measure involuntary poverty and woe, shall have extended to them the very indispensables of life. The proposition is certainly an infidel proposition; and it is difficult to believe that it does not proceed from a most rancorous and malignant Spirit: Or if this last melancholy conclusion be not adopted by us; we can, at least, only keep clear of it,—by supposing that he who suggested the thought, saw the futility of any serious argument which he could use in opposition to the friends of missionary efforts, and therefore determined to *laugh* the public out of their Christian zeal upon this momentous subject.

But amid all this hatred of missions; is there not much love for them manifested in our world, and even in our own country? While the infidel, the new-light, the shaker, the philosopher, (falsely so called,) the friend of Romish priestcraft, and the ingenious ecclesiastical innovator, are all together, in their enmity to all that is missionary; have we not still the *more* reason to rejoice in the union, upon this subject at least, of Christians of all the different denominations in every section of Christendom?—The wants of the distant Heathen are appreciated, in America for instance,—and the sufferings of our *Indians* are not forgotten. The public are roused to feeling and to effort, by the enlightened pious amongst us; plans are matured and adopted; and the missionary goes forth with the Bible, and with comfort, to starving thousands.

And every publication which bears upon this grand subject seems to be eagerly caught at. Amongst the cases of this kind, we might mention the reception of the Rev. *Dr. Blythe's* excellent Sermon to the Synod of this state, and the extracts from it by many of our most respectable religious journals for the benefit of their numerous readers. And upon the whole —though there be much apathy, yet, as to the cause we have been speaking of,—there is still a missionary spirit amongst us, which encouragement, we hope, may bring forward and ripen—to the good of the benighted regions to whom our Bible is to be sent, to the good of ourselves who shall send it, to the honor of the age we live in, and to the glory of our Divine Redeemer.

We only intended to offer a passing remark upon this subject; but the importance of the theme has carried us on.....We hope to see *all united in this object*: and united in *this*,—they will find an universal union, in sentiment and feeling already in progress towards a consummation.....This age is about to be distinguished for the peaceful revolutions of Bible love—as much as the last age was, by the revolutions of liberty, and by the revolutions of anarchy and needless bloodshed.

GENERAL LA FAYETTE.

We learn with great pleasure that this distinguished patriot pronounced that he had seen nothing on his late tour, so interesting as the collection, at Cincinnati, of *Sabbath School children*. They met to receive him, in no less a number than 1448.

And what *could* be a more interesting spectacle, than 1448 immortals, under a course of preparation for God's Heavenly kingdom—separated by their parents and teachers from the world, and fed daily with food from the skies?

The American Tract Magazine, for April, acknowledges the receipt of $20, from Ladies of the 1st Presbyterian Church, of this town, to constitute their pastor, the Rev. N. H. Hall, a life member of the American Tract Society.

DIED,

In this town, on Thursday last, Mrs. WILSON, consort of Mr. Robert Wilson.

From the Rec. & Tel.

A HIGHLY FAVORED PRESBYTERY.

While in many parts of our land iniquity abounds and the love of many waxes cold, it is cheering to be able to communicate such intelligence as the following, extracted from the Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of the Presbytery of Newark, N. J. This Presbytery was formed in November last; the Presbytery of Jersey having at that time been divided into the two Presbyteries of Newark and Elizabethtown.

"In former years, says the Narrative, rich blessings have been scattered over various portions of this favored district—and powerful and extensive revivals of religion have prevailed: but at no preceding period, probably, have appearancess been more generally and decidedly encouraging than at present.

At Patterson, a work of grace commenced in 1822, and continued long encouraging. For a short time during the last autumn, it seemed to subside. But again is seriousness prevailing, and professors are again earnest in prayer. During the last year 40 have been added to the church, making 160, the fruits of this blessed work.—In the second church at Newark, also, the interesting appearances discovered last spring, have continued and still continue; between 20 and 30 have been added to the church. Towards the close of the summer, the Lord was pleased to visit also, the 1st and 3d Churches in Newark, and the churches at Newfoundland, Hardiston, Wantage, Sparta, and Frankford—in all of which the awakening and conversion of sinners have been continued to be witnessed until this time. But in Newfoundland, Wantage, and 3d Church, Newark, the work has been unusually extensive and powerful. In the 1st Church, Newark, about 30—in the 3d church, Newark, 55—at Newfoundland, 80—at Wantage, 150 have been already admitted to communion. Numbers more in each of these places, are cherishing hopes of acceptance through Christ—and many others are more or less deeply concerned.

Early in January last, the Congregation at Long Pond, in which vice had assumed an alarming tone of boldness, was blessed with a sudden, powerful, and rapid work of grace, which seems to have impressed almost every individual of its thinly scattered population: 70 have been already added to the church; others are rejoicing, and the work of conviction still progresses.

About the middle of February, Orange was favored with tokens of the presence of the Lord—and not less than 150 have felt the Spirit's influence, of whom many give good evidence of a renewed heart.

At Bloomfield, also—the hearts of God's people, waiting in earnest prayer for the Lord's appearing, have been cheered by an answer for good. A blessed work of grace has been commenced, in which at least 60 have been deeply impressed, and of these not less than one half, now tell of the Saviour's love. In both these places also, the work still continues, and appears to increase in power.—Although it is from among the young chiefly that the subjects of this work have been taken, yet it is not exclusively so. Some are as young as 10 or 12—and a few, especially at Newfoundland and Long-Pond, as far advanced as 60 and even 80.—Notoriously intemperate men have been hopefully reclaimed, and in several congregations, avowed and confirmed Universalists have been brought to tremble at the wrath of God, and eventually to rejoice in his discriminating mercy. It will be encouraging to the friends of Domestic Missions to learn, that at Newfoundland and Long-Pond, where the most powerful work of grace has been carried on, 6 or 7

years since the gospel was first statedly preached by Missionaries—it has been continued till this day, partly by the aid of Missionary Societies—and thus in the short space of 6 years, have these two churches, the one of 110, and the other of 180 members, been collected by the instrumentality of Domestic Missionaries.

Nor ought we to omit mentioning, with humble gratitude, that at Parsippany, Succasunna, the congregation of Jersey City, and other places where nothing very special has yet been experienced, there is an increasing spirit of engagedness and fervency in prayer among professors of religion, who are anxiously waiting on the Lord, and supplicating his blessing on their respective churches.

It should be remarked, that in all the churches which are now blessed with an outpouring of the Spirit of God, the practice of visiting from house to house, and conversing solemnly with individuals, has been resorted to by the Pastors, Sessions of the churches, and zealous Christians who have laboured with them, and has been found eminently instrumental in awakening sinners, and arousing languid professors. Sabbath School instruction has also been signally blessed to both teachers and scholars—from among whom no inconsiderable ingathering has been obtained.

Much no doubt there is yet among us displeasing to the Lord; there is still too much conformity to the spirit and maxims of the world among our professors--far too little of the self-denying zeal--the simplicity of heart—and the continual prayerful spirit that should characterize every one who has solemnly dedicated himself to the Lord. For these things we would humble ourselves; and we would exhort the churches under our care to humiliation before the Lord. Yet should we deem ourselves doubly unthankful, did we refuse to call upon our people--upon each other--and upon our own souls, to bless the Lord for his unexpected and unmerited goodness manifested in so many respects, to this section of his church.

Nor can we doubt that out of about *Six Hundred and Fifty-seven* that now rank themselves among those who within the past year have found peace in believing, there will be many, very many, who throughout eternity will testify that the Presbytery of Newark had good reason to bless the Lord for what he has done for them during that period."

In connexion with the above, the Newark Sentinel makes the following remarks, and gives other very interesting facts in relation to this subject:—

"So cheering a report, so glorious an accession to the visible Church of the Redeemer, has not been made to the public for many years past. How ought the hearts of Christians to rejoice, how excited to humble and ardent gratitude, when they learn that during the past year, there have been added to the Churches within the bounds of the Newark Presbytery, the joyful number of *six hundred and fifty souls*. Nor is this all: the work of Grace is still progressing—and there are hundreds who indulge the hope that they have passed from death unto life, but have not yet united themselves with the church.

In addition to the above pleasing information, we would add, that a powerful work of Grace is experienced in the Churches of Springfield and Westfield, in the Presbytery of Elizabeth-Town. In these churches, more than two hundred persons are under exercise of mind. The day before yesterday, between forty and fifty were added to the Springfield church by an open profession of their faith in Christ. For a continuation of these infinitely important blessings, let Christians earnestly and devoutly pray."

A Newark paper mentions that an unusual religious attention prevails in the congregation of the people of colour in that town. The stated meetings are well attended and solemn, and some have been added to the church, while others are anxious. They have recently established a Sabbath and Day School and a Bible Class, conducted by themselves.

N. Y. Reli. Chron.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The Treasurer of the American Bible Society acknowledges the receipt of 8,783 dollars during the month of April, an amount greater we believe, than was ever before acknowledged in a single month. Of this sum 2,000 dollars was a legacy from Matthew Van Benschooten, Esq. late of Fishkill. *N. Y. Obs.*

Communicated for the Western Luminary.

MIAMI UNIVERSITY.

The Miami University, at Oxford, Butler county, State of Ohio, was opened last November. The Faculty and teachers at present are,

Reverend R. H. Bishop, *President, and Professor of Rhetoric, Logic, Moral Philosophy, and History.*

John E. Annan, *Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and Teacher of Political Economy.*

John P. Williston, *Teacher of Latin and Greek Languages.*

John P. Vandike, } *Tutors.*
John S. Weaver, }
Robert G. Linn, }

There are three regular classes formed in the College, (viz.) a Freshman, a Sophomore and a Junior class; also three classes formed in the Grammar school. The plan for the present is that all students who may enter shall be attached to one or other of these classes; at the same time, should any one not be qualified to recite to advantage, in all things, with the class to which he may be attached, he will be attended to by himself, or in another class, until he is qualified.

The greater part of the students lodge in the College building, and board with the families in the village; all are required to be in the building during the whole of study and recitation hours.

The arrangements for study, recitation and exercise are as follows.

STUDY.
From 5 to 7 A. M.
2 to 5 P. M.
RECITATIONS.
From 7 to 8 A. M.
9 to 12 A. M.
EXERCISES AND MEALS.
From 8 to 9 A. M.
12 to 2 P. M.
5 to 8 P. M.
PRAYERS.
at 9 A. M. and at 8 P. M.
SLEEP.
From 10 P. M. to 5 A. M.

The year is divided into two sessions of five months each. The Winter session commences on the first Monday in November, and ends on the last day of March. The Summer session commences on the first Monday in May and ends on the last day of September.

Tuition in the College classes is 10 dols. per session, and in the Grammar school 5 dols. per session.

Boarding is at the rate of 1 dol. and 1 dol. 25 cents per week.

The whole expences of the year may be estimated thus, viz.

Tuition	20 dols.
Boarding	50
Washing	8
Candles and wood	5
Room rent and servants hire	5
Extra expences	5
	93

Oxford, 10th May, 1825.

CHEROKEE IMPROVEMENTS.

A moral and Literary Society was instituted in the Cherokee Nation last November, having for its object the suppression of vice, the encouragement of Morality, and the general improvement of the nation. The Constitution, which is well drawn up, was presented to the Legislative Council of the Nation at its session at New Town, and received the sanction of that body. The funds of the Society are to be expended in procuring a Library of the most approved works on Morality, Re-

ligion, History, Jurisprudence, and general Literature. The first general meeting is to be held at New-Town, the seat of government for the nation, on the 3d Monday in October next, when an Oration, in the English and Cherokee languages, is to be delivered by Mr. David Brown, and in case of his sickness or absence, by Mr. John Ridge; both of whom are well known in the United States as young men of fine talents and education.—*Fam. Vis.*

CREEK INDIANS.

The Milledgeville Recorder gives us the following not altogether unexpected news from this tribe.

"We stop the press to announce the the distressing intelligence of the murder of the Indian Chief Gen Wm. McIntosh, and the Chief of Cowetau, Tustunnuggee Tomme, which was brought to the Governor yesterday evening by Chilly McIntosh, the General's son, and five Chiefs of the Nation, who made their escape from the massacre. The mischief was perpe trated last Saturday by a large body of Indians, supposed to be four hundred, who attacked General McIntosh in his own house, on the very day he had appointed to set off at the head of a mission to explore the country west of the Mississippi for the future residence of the nation."

ANOTHER GREEK VICTORY.—Accounts from Zante to the 24th of March, confirmed by letters from Cefalonia and various parts of the Morea, state that 600 Arab troops, landed by the Egyptian fleet at Modon in the Morea, early in that month, had been completely defeated by the Greeks, and that nearly the whole had been either killed or taken prisoners. Among the prisoners were many Europeans especially Frenchmen. It is added that a division of the Greek fleet had shut up the Egyptian fleet in the Gulf of Coron, and only waited for a favourable wind to send the fireships against them. The Egyptian fleet is said to consist of seven frigates, nine brigs, and numerous other vessels. Every thing seems to promise success to the Greeks in the ensuing campaign. *N. Y. Obs.*

EARTHQUAKE IN ALGIERS.

The American Consul at Algiers writes under date of March the 4th, to his friends in Philadelphia, that the flourishing town of Belida, about 28 miles south of the city of Algiers, was destroyed by an earthquake on the preceding day.

"A mosque, two coffee houses, and five dwelling houses," says Mr. Shaler, "are the only buildings standing in that town, and almost the whole of its population has perished. The Aga, with a detachment of cavalry, left the city at three this morning. to relieve the sufferers. Belida is situated at the foot of the mountains on the southern verge of the beautiful plain of Metijah; it is reported to have contained about 10,000 inhabitants, and it enjoyed a great degree of agricultural prosperity, being the place from which this city is supplied with fruit and vegatables. One of the principal sources of the prosperity of Belida, was its numerous springs; abundance of water circulated freely through all its streets and extensive plantations. It is now reported, that about half an hour before this terrible catastrophe, all the water suddenly disappeared, and that now there is none to be found within the distance of half a league." *N. Y. Obs.*

REMARKABLE LONGEVITY.

There are now living in Charlotte county, Virginia, near the Campbell line, two persons, Alexander Berkley and his wife. Berkley is now in his hundred and eighteenth year, and his

wife in her hundred and seventh. Mr. Berkley was born in Scotland, and served in the British army under the Duke of Marlborough. in the reign of Queen Anne. After the death of his queen, he emigrated to America, and served again in the army of England under General Wolfe, and was at Qubec when Montgomery fell. When the war of our Revolution commenced, he was too old to become a soldier again; and his military career was of course then terminated. He has lived with his wife in a state of matrimony ninety years, has had several children, but they have all gone to the tomb before him. It appears that this old man has always been poor, and was consequently under the necessity of labouring for his support.

THE AFRICAN CHIEFTAIN.

Some years ago, the brother of Yaradee, the king of the Solima nation, was captured in war, and brought in chains for sale to the Rio-Pongas. His noble figure, awful front, and daring eye, bespoke a mind which could know but one alternative—freedom or ruin. He was exhibited like a beast in the market place, still adorned with massy rings of gold around his ankles, as in the days of his glory. The tyrant who bound him, demanded for him an enormous price, and though the warrior offered immense sums for his redemption, refussed to listen a moment to his proposals. Distracted by the thought of his degradation, the tears stole from eye, which never wept before, when he entreated them to cut his hair, that had long been permitted to grow, and was platted with peculiar care.—Large wedges of gold, which had been concealed in it, were now laid at the feet of his master, to obtain his ransom. All was in vain. The wretch who held him was inexorable. Supplication might as well have been made to the winds of heaven, or to the cliffs and desert of his country. Hope was now dead—darkness deep and interminable settled upon his soul.—"Then burst his mighty heart." His faculties were shattered as by a stroke from on high—he became a maniac, and that robust frame which never trembled on fields of blood and death, could not sustain the workings of his wounded spirit, but withered and perished under the weight of his chains.

Ye, who under the best government in the world, range at will in the gardens of pleasure, or in the halls of wealth listen to sweet music; at one time improving the intellect, at another delighting the fancy; now tasting the sweets of friendship, now grasping the meed of honour, having none to molest or to make you, afraid; could the miseries produced by the slave trade be presented to you in their truth—in their immensity, you would not refuse your offerings to remove a curse which has consigned, and is now consigning, ten thousand manly forms to fetters, and ten thousand noble souls to despair.

African Respository.

Iron Steam-Boat.—We mentioned a few days since, that an iron steam-boat was building for the navigation of the Susquehannah. We learn from the Baltimore papers, that the boat is completed, and arrived at Fort Deposit. She runs remarkably well, and it is believed she will be enabled to reach Oswego, in this state, without difficulty.—*Com. Adv.*

The distance which Gen. La Fayette will perform from Washington City to Boston, in his route through the Southern and Western States, is calculated at 5286 miles—2610 by water and 2676 by land. The time to perform this journey the General has put down at 100 days.

POETRY.

"If any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life."

THE APOCALYPSE.

A gray rock o'erhangs the sullen deep,
Around its jutting base the billows lash,
And to its very summit, rudely dash
Their fiercest fury, with relentless sweep.

But yet that rock, fix'd by Almighty pow'r,
Defies the tempest of the waves and wind;
And, while it tow'rs, in majesty enshrin'd,
The broken waves roll loosely from the shore.

A granite column, rear'd in ancient day,
Lifts his tall head, high mounting to the skies;
Against its strength the painted insect flies,
With the vain hope to crumble it away.

Thus man God's holy word would turn to lies!
In light increas'd, it bursts, while the weak rebel dies.

Nat. Jour.

From the Philadelphian.

BY W. B. TAPPAN.

Ye spirits of the just, who soar
Beyond those starry fields sublime;
Dwellers in light! with whom are o'er
The pageants, and the tears of Time;—
Say, are the thoughts we entertain
Of yonder unknown worlds, untrue?
Are those high mysteries but vain,
Dissolv'd, or unrevealed to you?

Prophets!—a long and awful train;
Pilgrims! who bow'd beneath the rod,
And martyrs! who from racks of pain,
Soar'd to the presence of your God—
Earth gave you not her poor renown;
—Humility your only gem—
'Twas yours to seek a nobler crown,—
Say, wear ye now that diadem?

Thou disembodied one! whom here
'Twas ours, in fellowship, to know;
Who, buoy'd by Faith, without a fear,
Fled from endearments priz'd below;
On the dear hopes that sooth'd thy bed,
Hath Disappointment flung its pall;
Or dost thou bosom now thy head,
On HIM, thou chosest as thy All?

Forbear!—yon ministering one,
Thine eyes in flesh! shall never see;
The dull cold sepulchre, its own
Mortal! shall never yield to thee;
See! on futurity's long night,
A cheering beam of heaven is shed;
Receive thou Revelation's light,
If not—wouldst thou believe the dead?

AND WHAT IS LIFE?

And what is LIFE?—a maniac's idle dream;
A bubble floating in the liquid stream;
A short delusive span;
A mingled cup, of sweet and bitter taste;
A cultured garden, and a dreary waste;
A scene, deceiving man.

And what is WEALTH?—a sweet, tho' pois'nous flow'r;
A pompous name—the offspring of an hour;
A thing embitt'ring life;
A glitt'ring phantom, that will disappear;
A gilded bauble, which we hold most dear,
Tho' author of all strife.

And what is LOVE?—a spell that binds the heart;
A thrilling touch—a kind of pleasing smart;
A *rose* pluck'd with a *thorn*:
A passion, which no language can express—
A pain, array'd in pleasure's richest dress,
To gild youth's blooming morn.

And what is HOPE?—a gem of purest ray,
A smiling sun-beam, that will ever stay;
A glimpse of future joy;
A faithful sentry, always on his post;
Life's last resort, when cares perplex us most;
A bliss without alloy.

And what is DEATH?—a dark, mysterious name;
A long and tranquil sleep the weary claim;
A momentary dread;
A summons hence—an awful, solemn pause;
A stern decree, but yet an unfound cause,
Known only to the dead.